Development Bank, etc. to introduce such a scheme in poorest districts of Vidarbha like Yavatmal, where maximum farmers; suicides are taking place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Bihar had envisaged the Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project JEEVIKA to the Ministry of Finance seeking World Bank funding for the Project. The Project was approved by the Ministry of Finance on 14.6.2007. Accordingly, the World Bank approved a credit amounting to SDR 41,400,000 (equivalent to Us $ 63,000,000) for the project on "Bihar rural Livelihoods - JEEVIKA". The Project objective is to enhance social and economic empowerment of rural poor in Bihar. The project period is six years. The total project cost is US $ 70 million, out of which US $ 63 million has been funded by the World Bank and the rest by the Government of Bihar. The "Bihar Rural Livelihoods - JEEVIKA" will be implemented in about 776 Village Panchayats covering 4000 villages in 42 blocks in the six districts of Nalanda, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Madhubani, Khagaria and Purnea of the State of Bihar. The primary agency responsible for the project's implementation will be the Bihar Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (BRLPS) established by Government of Bihar, as the promotional and umbrella agency for rural livelihood promotion in Bihar.

(b) In order to introduce such a scheme in the poorest districts of Vidarbha like Yavatmal, the Government of Maharashtra may formulate a specific project and then take up with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs for seeking external financial assistance for implementing the Project.

Release of funds to Orissa under IAY

†395. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds released by the Centre to the State of Orissa under Indira Awās Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are considering for giving additional package for construction of houses in the backwards areas in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVLEOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) An amount of Rs. 440.45 crore was released by the Centre to the State of Orissa under Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Review of NREG Scheme on the basis of irregularities

†396. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme on the basis of irregularities prevailing in it;

(b) if so, the details thereof including points of review;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.